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## Faithful and full Account, &amp;c.

**G**REAT Births are frequently attended with extraordinary Circumstances of Omens, Prodigies and Dreams; so it happened to the Doctor, whose Mother, while with Child of him, dreamed she brought forth a nine-eyed Eel, which, sliding through her Hand, dived into the Mud and was never more seen. The Meaning of this Emblem the Wise will easily understand: For whereas the Eel seemed to have nine Eyes, this shewed the Person, figured by the Eel, should have four Times and a Half more Sight and Understanding than an ordinary Eel: And whereas the Eel seemed to hide itself in the Mud, this plainly signifies, the said Person would sink into the Secrets of Nature.

I cannot tell, whether it is worth while to relate, that the Doctor, while an Infant, being obliged to eat great Quantities of Crabs Eyes, was thought then to have contracted that voracious Appetite for devouring Eyes, which has never been satiated since; and that, being always of a composed sedate Disposition, he threw away his Rattle very soon, and was observed to take Delight in nothing so much as looking and boring into the

Cat's Eye, which he would do for Hours together; infomuch that many have thought, that most Part of his Knowledge was derived from these early Contemplations. But one Thing was remarkable in him, very early, that he never could see any Thing with a Blind or sore Eye, but he immediately fell into a most violent Fit of Fury, clinching his Fist, gnashing his Teeth, taking off his Wig, twirling it about in the Air, kicking the Stones of the Street, cursing, swearing, foaming at the Mouth, and shewing other Signs of a desperate Rage; nay, it was often with Difficulty he was hindred from dashing his Fist into the poor People's Eyes. Now this was too rashly imputed, by the People who saw it, to a Phrenzy, or a wicked Disposition in the Boy; and his Mother often rebuked him for it: But really it was owing to nothing but a strong natural Antipathy he had to all such Objects; and indeed it must be allowed, the Doctor, all his Life long, shewed a sufficient Enmity to sore Eyes.

Now, when the Lad grew, and the Spirit of Physick came strongly upon him, he began to reason with himself, whether the Life of the Body, or the Sight of the Eye, is best. What is Life? says he to himself. Breath. For, when Breath is gone, Life is gone. And what is Breath? A Vapour; a Cloud; Smoke of reeking Lungs; a Puff of Wind impregnated with noisom Steams. How infinitely short of the Purity of the celestial Rays of Light, by which we see the Life of Animals is in their Blood, their Sight in their Aqueous Humor, their Vitreous Humor, their Crystalline Humor? How  
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fine, how pure, how delectable and subtle is the one, when compared to the other? Life is confined to this Body; Sight ranges over all. A Man may live a vile Life, but his Sight must be good, for he sees what is beautiful and good. Having thus satisfied himself, that Sight was infinitely more valuable than Life, he resolved to lay aside all other Considerations of Life, Health and Pain, in his Practice, and to confine himself entirely to the Care of Sight, studying every Thing that might have the most remote Relation to it.

For this Purpose, having collected all the Books he could find, of Anatomy, Physick, Opticks, Surgery, &c. he shut himself up for seven Days: But, in that time, he found that the Circle of the Arts was like the Wheel of Fortune, very ticklishly set; so that, when one had mounted up a few Steps, their own Weight brought them down again; besides that it was apt to make their Brain turn round. Finding all his Labour in vain, then he began to consider with himself; What are these Books? What are all Books? Nothing but Paper and Ink, covered with Pastboard and Leather. What are all Writings, but Words? What are Words, but Letters? And what are Letters, but black Lines? And are Paper and Ink, and black Lines, Science, and Knowledge, and Understanding, and Physick, and Animal Oeconomy, and Theory? No, no.—Now I perceive my Error! Now I see what has made all the World wonder! But I know how to correct my Error; they do not. Physick, Anatomy, the Animal Oeconomy, tell me, that, as nothing can nourish the Body, without being digested,

gested, and going through the Circulation, so *a fortiori*, nothing can nourish the Mind in any other Way, as nothing enters the Brain without undergoing a more complete Digestion and Circulation. Upon this Thought, taking up all his Books, and throwing them down, one of them fell in the Fire, and set the Chimney all on a Flame; but, by good Fortune, nothing else was burnt, save a Cotton-Handkerchief, and a Stocking he was drying on the Tongs.

Nevertheless, not at all daunted with this Loss, he applied himself strenuously to the Execution of his new Project; and having, with indefatigable, and never enough to be admired Industry, collected a sufficient Quantity of the Aqueous, Vitreous, and Crystalline Humors of various Animals, and mixt them in due Proportions, he made a Vow to use no other Drink, and as little other Meat as possible, for seven Years; at the same Time by frequent Bleedings at the Temporal Arteries and Jugular Veins, he drained off the former gross Blood from his Head, that its Veins and Arteries, and Lymphatics, might be filled with this purer Juice. It is surprising what Improvement this ingenious Invention made on the Doctor's Eyes and Head; for his Eyes, being thus filled with Humors twice distilled, can look upon any Assembly without being discomposed; and, his Head being replenished with infinitely more fine and subtile, and, as he calls them himself, quite volatilized Spirits, became more sprightly and alert; but what Effect it had in exciting proper Ideas, and inspiring him with a full Knowledge of the Structure and Diseases of  
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the Eye, which was indeed the principal Thing he had in View, I shall not here examine, as the Doctor himself has prepared a very full and elaborate Treatise upon that Subject, wherein he proves that it is the Stomach that thinks; that Thought is generated by a subtile Steam arising from Concoction, and that our Ideas partake of the Nature of the Food we eat; so that, instead of saying such an one is a Man of a good Head, or a good Heart, we should say he is a Man of a good Stomach, and eats well. From this Principle, the Doctor overturns all the Philosophies, Religions, Politicks and Morals hitherto in vogue, and points out the Errors of all the Ways of instructing and reforming Mankind, hitherto used, which he proves, by Experience, from the little Good they have done; for he proves, that all Wisdom, Genius and good Morals, proceed intirely from the Nature of the Stomach, and the Meat we eat; and therefore proposes, that, instead of Bibles and *Corpus Juris's*, there should be nothing but a System of Cookery, and Bills of Fare established by Act of Parliament, which the Magistrates should see to the Execution of: But of this I shall say no more, as it is to be hoped the Doctor will, in a short Time, enrich the World with this Treasure.

It must be remarked, that, besides the thin Diet abovementioned, the Doctor indulged himself in more substantial Dishes, often feasting on the Coats of Eyes, often on Ophthalmick Herbs, which he had drest sometimes with Butter of Antimony, sometimes with Cream of Tartar, and seasoned with a small Quantity of the finest Alcaline Salt.

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At the same Time, he began to powder his Wig, every Morning, with sublimated Mercury, from which he felt great Benefit, and has therefore continued the Practice ever since.

Now, at first, when he began this Regimen, he behaved with great Sobriety, and his Mother was exceeding glad to find he had left off his former Practice of playing at Ninepins with Soldiers, throwing Stones at the Neighbours Poultry, riding on the Minister's Cow to the Grass, pissing in Milk-Pails, and flinging of Ashes of burnt Sticks into the Potage, by way of Salt; and that now he pared his Nails, blowed his Nose, said his Prayers Morning and Evening, read his Chapter aloud, went to Bed betimes, rose early in the Morning, and attended the Ordinances, where he appeared with great Gravity, praying for Success on his Designs, and indeed he was remarkable through the whole Parish for his Sobriety.

But, in a short Time, he took a Fancy, that, as all his Study was to be employed about Sight, so he should employ nothing but Sight, for the other Senses served only to distract his Attention; upon this he lined his Mouth, all on the Inside, with Shamoy Leather, laid on a thick Crust of white Varnish upon his Nose, put Corks in both his Ears, covered at Top with white Leather, and sealed round with red Wax, covering, at the same Time, his Body, Head and Face, all except his Eyes and Mouth, with Dog-Skins and Cat-Skins, patched up with old Hangings, to a vast Thickness; then he spent whole Days and Nights in grinding down Knives, and Needles, and Scissars, out of old Iron, upon



upon the Hearth; and was ever and anon Bleeding the Cat in the Temporal Arteries and Jugular Veins. All this his Mother, otherways a Woman of extraordinary good Sense, not understanding, thought mere Phrenzy; but being a prudent Woman, and considering the Cure of Madness was very tedious, and the Advice of Physicians expensive, she chose rather to submit to the Dispensations of Providence; and tho' she had already lost a Pair of old Tongs, and a new Frying-Pan, by his Means, yet she bore it with great Resignation, only she took Care to keep out of his Way herself, as not knowing what a Madman might do with so many sharp Weapons.

Thus Matters went on for some Time, till one Day the Doctor issuing from his Chamber, with all the Instruments he had been making, stuck thro' his Clothes, with their Points outwards; a large Necklace of Eyes, strung upon Optick Nerves, hanging down his Breast; a Bundle of Ophthalmick Herbs round his Head, waving a red-hot Iron in his Hand, rowling his Eyes, and tossing his Arms about, crying, *Rejoice, O Earth, be exceeding glad, O Britain, sing for Joy, O Frogmore,* (which was the Name of the Place where he then stay'd) *Behold, I arise, like the Sun, from the East,* (for indeed his Chamber was in the East-End of the House) *clearing away the Clouds of Darknes,* worse than the Darknes of Night, *which is only Want of Light, or the Darknes of Ignorance, which hurts not the Eyes, even the Darknes of the Aqueous, Vitreous and Crystalline Humors. Behold how all other Physicians vanish, like twinkling Stars, extinguished in the Rays of me the great Sun of Light to the Eyes*  
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*of the Blind. Hence, ye Glaucoma's, Cataracta's, Staphyloma's, Pforophthalmia's, Hydrophthalmia's, Mydriasis's, Amblyopia's, Nyctalopia's, Ancyloblepharon's and Strabismus's, fly far from me, and vanish; for thus I come armed with Knowledge in my Head, and Instruments of Death to you, and Salvation to the Blind, in my Hands, to chase you from the Face of the Earth.* After this he poured forth a great Number of Scripture and blasphemous Expressions, calling himself the *Eye and Light of the World*, and many other Things not proper for us to relate. In this Manner he ran up and down the House, seizing every one he met, boring Needles into their Eyes, and touching them with a red-hot Iron, which he said was the Scepter of an Oculist, and the only true Touchstone to distinguish a sound from a sore Eye.

After this the Doctor, going to the Door, found a Horse that was carrying raw Cow-Hides to the Market, standing tied to the Key of the Door, while its Master was drinking a Pot of Beer in the House; so, laying Hold of this Opportunity, he loosed the Horse, and mounted upon his Back above the raw Hides, placing a Kitchen-Stool, with a large *Folio* open, before, and in this Manner began to jog on. This was soon observed by the Boys just then returning from School, who raising a great Shout, began to run after the Doctor, huzzaing, hooping and hallooing, some throwing Stones, some Cow-Dung, some running Pitch-forks into his Backside, some hounding the Dogs after him, of which there were great Numbers in that Place; so that there was a great Tumult, and the whole Inhabi-



Inhabitants of the Town were gathered together. All this never disturbed the Horse or the Doctor, who went on with their former Composure; the Doctor rejoicing in it exceedingly, as it gave him an Opportunity of shewing with what Intenseness of Thought he studied; for he neither heard, saw, nor felt the least of what was passing, till an unlucky Boy, having cut a convenient Slip of Furze or Whin, and clapt them under the Horse's Tail, made it forget its former Gravity, and the precious Load it had on its Back, and, kicking out, fly off with all the Speed it was able, and the Doctor's ill Stars directed it towards its Stable, where the Door being open, and the Horse flying in at full Gallop, dashed the Doctor's Head against the Lintel, with so much Violence, that he tumbled down half-dead upon the Ground.

Now the Damage the Doctor sustained by this Fall was unspeakable, it bruised a great Number of his Eyes, which he had collected with infinite Labour, as Samples of diseased Eyes, and were most Part of his own Manufactory; broke a great many of his Instruments, scattered his Ophthalmick Herbs, and tore his Clothes; not to mention, that it so crackt and shattered his Skull in a thousand Places, that many think he has never recovered it to this Day. This much is certain, that his Brow has been quite insensible ever since. There was only one lucky Circumstance in this Fall, which was, that the Doctor, pitching directly on his Head, sunk a great Way into some hot Cow's Dung that was just then thrown out; now, this being soft and warm, was thought by the Doctor afterwards to have ser-

ved as a fine Anodyne Balsamick Plaister to comfort the Wound; besides, some of his Brains having been dashed out, the Dung, entering by the Wound, supplied its Place, being of an homogeneous Nature, and easily assimilated, as the Doctor explains it himself.

After the Doctor had lain a short Time in this lamentable Condition, some of his compassionate Neighbours came and lifted him up, and taking Advantage of a Cart that was going with Dung that Way, they immediately, without losing Time to wash or dress his Wounds, tost him on the Top of it, where he lay very soft and warm till he arrived safely at Home; but he would allow Nobody to touch his Head, being afraid they would disturb his highly rectified Spirits, as he called them, only he desired them to scarify and burn both his great Toes, in order to cause a Revulsion of that Pain from his Head, which is a Practice the Doctor has made frequent Use of since.

All this Time his poor Mother had been in such excessive Grief, since his Behaviour in the House, that she could not be moved with any Account of her Son's Misfortune, nor be prevailed on so much as to see him. What had frightened her most was the odd, cramp Names he had used, which she took to be so many Devils, and could not but believe that her Son was possessed. She began to think, therefore, that every Body was in Danger of their Lives that were near him, especially when she reflected he had actually made an Attempt upon the Cat, to the no small Danger of her Life. Upon this, willing to lose no Time, she put on a clean Apron, and



and went to the Parson of the Parish herself, begging him, with Tears in her Eyes, to come and assist her Son, who had fallen beside himself, with his Prayers and Advice. The good Man, condoling with her for so great a Misfortune, very readily complied with her Desire, and indeed came that very Evening.

Now, at first the Parson thought he had been misinformed, and that the Doctor was a young Man of as good Sense as ever he had conversed with, for he did not speak a Word for a long Time, but seemed to listen with great Attention to what the Parson said, tho' he did not hear one Word, the Corks being still in his Ears; but, at last, when the Doctor would needs brush the Parson's Eyes with Bear-Awns, pluck Hairs out of his Beard, to shew him in a Microscope, and beat the Tail of his Gown in a Mortar to make it Scarlet, by changing the Texture of its Parts; then the Parson began to suspect he was possessed, and remembering that he had preached against the Devil the *Sunday* before, he did not think himself safe to stay any longer in his Company, but retired with great Precipitation. The poor Mother, who waited with great Impatience all the Time, to hear what the Parson thought of the State of her Son's Soul, meeting him in the Door with Tears in her Eyes, he, out of Compassion, seeing her so much afflicted, bade her be of good Comfort, for her Son was surely possessed of the Devil, and it was not suitable to his Character to stay in so bad Company; upon which he flung out of the House, and would never return.

The Mother, being now thoroughly persuaded  
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that her Son was posselt, bethought herself of sending for a Conjuror, who lived in the Neighbourhood, and used to discover stolen Goods, and read the Girls Fortunes. The Conjuror came very readily, and entred into serious Conversation with the Doctor about conjuring the Devil; and the Doctor told him, he had all the Devils of Blindness under his Belt, and began to speak a great many impious Things out of the Scriptures, about casting out the Devil, which gave the Conjuror good Hopes of him; and therefore, shaking him by the Hand, he asked him, What Set of Devils he dealt chiefly with? Upon which the Doctor rattled off *Glaucoma's*, &c. till he was out of Breath; and the Conjuror not knowing any of these Devils, and unwilling to confess his Ignorance in his own Art, sneak'd off.

Now the Doctor, not being much the better either for the Parson or Conjuror, went on in his former Courses, committing a great many odd Frolicks. Among other Things, he one Day cut a Piece of Flesh out of each of his own Buttocks, and having taken out the Eyes of a favourite Dog of his Mother's, and brushed them clean, he put them into the Holes, clapping a Plaister of *Burgundy Pitch* over them, to keep them in till they should take Root; then, not willing to lose any of his own Flesh, he fried the two Pieces he had cut out, with Butter, and eat them that Evening to supper with Spinnage and Eggs. Now, tho' it must be owned the Eyes are gone, yet the Holes still remain, and for a Proof of the Truth of this Narration, may be seen any Evening, on *Sundays, Tuesdays, and Fridays*.

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His Mother was much concerned to see her Dog's Eyes out, and considering, at the same Time, that if the Physician of the Place should hear that her Son was mad, and not put into his Hands, he might take it amiss, and, not liking to disoblige him, because he was her Landlord, and used to drink in her House, sent for him, and gave him a Consultation.

The Physician, to make himself better acquainted with his Patient's Case, conversed with him, asking a great many Questions; and the Doctor talked to him of the Course of his Studies, the animal Oeconomy, the Theory of Physick, and a Project he had of planting Eyes on the Points of People's Noses, that they might see better about them. The Physician was greatly delighted with him, thinking him a Lad of uncommon Knowledge and Parts, and imputing it to his Mother's Ignorance that she thought him mad. But afterwards, when the Doctor began to call the animal Oeconomy, a Species of the *Seneca* Snake-Root, and to say, that Theory was nothing but a Clyster of *Castile* Soap and *Jamaica* Rum; that *Hippocrates* and *Galen* were two *Swiss* in the King of *France's* Lifeguards, and whipped thence for stealing sugar'd Almonds out of Cardinal *Fleury's* Pocket; that *Boerhaave* was condemned, for breaking into a Pastry-Cook's Shop in *Leyden*, and stealing thence Farthing Pies to an immense Value, to stand on an Apothecary's Sign-Board, with large Mustachoes and red painted Cheeks, to look up the Streets and down by Turns; the Physician, who had never read any such Thing, and believed in his Conscience it was all Scandal, at first begged Leave to differ from him: But, when the

the Doctor insisted upon it, affirming, with horrid Oaths and Imprecations, that it was all literally true, the Physician felt his Pulse, and perceived plainly he had a *Phrenitis*.

Upon this, opening the Door, and calling in his Mother, he told her, it was proper her Son should breathe a Vein; and the good Woman, willing to allow of any Operation that might be for his Benefit, went very readily and brought the Tea-Cups, Bandages and Compress, and all seemed to be in a fair Way, when suddenly, a Thought striking the Doctor in the Head, that to empty the Veins of the Arm might possibly bring down the fine subtile Spirits from the Head, he sprunk up, and, throwing himself about in the most violent Manner, dashed the Cups in his Mother's Face, overturned the Table and Stools, and sore bruised the Physician's Nose; then snatching up a Piece of Iron he kept always hot in the Fire, he charged upon them with so much Fury, as obliged them all to retire out of the Room with the greatest Precipitancy.

When this was done, the Doctor, seeing all quiet again, began to prosecute his former Schemes, and bethink himself how he might acquire a light Hand. At first he was inclined to think, that the shaking of a Man's Hand might be owing to the Pulsation of the Arteries, and that, to prevent this, it must do well to cut out the Arteries of the right Arm in a neat Manner; but afterwards, considering with himself that this might prove a tedious and painful Operation, he thought, if he could diminish the Quantity of Blood, and increase that of Spirits in his Arm, it would answer the Purpose as well, and



this might be easily done by suspending his Arm for 7 or 8 Days; for the Blood being retarded in the Ascent by its Gravity, and the Spirits naturally mounting upwards, the one would fly into the Arm, in much less, and the other in much greater Quantities, which could not fail to make his Hand both more active and light. This ingenious Invention pleasing him much, he immediately took two Screw-Nails and a Piece of Whipcord, and having so twisted his Fingers into the Cord, that he could not well disentangle them himself, tho' he inclined it, he fixed it to the Wall of his Room as high as he could reach with the Nails.

All this Time one of the Servants was observing his Behaviour thro' the Key-Hole, who perceiving him at last fairly fastened, run immediately with the News to the Physician and his Company, who were drinking a Pot of Beer at the other End of the House; upon which they made no farther Delay than to drink out the Pot they had just then called for, when the Physician, his Man, and two Apprentices, having drawn their Lances to be in readiness, rushed into the Room with a most horrible Noise, and seized the Doctor, one by the Collar, another by the Left-Arm, another by his two Legs, and the fourth by the Headband of his Breeches, holding him fast till all the Implements necessary for bleeding were brought; then every one plunging his Instrument into him, they bled him all at once in the Temporal Artery, both the Juglars, and both the Veins of the Arms; then they clapt a Blister three Quarters of a Yard long upon his Back, and one on each Thigh, together  
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with three or four Cupping-Glasses on his Head : After this, in spite of the most horrible Curses, which would have frightened any Body of less undaunted Courage than the Physician and his Men, they hurried him away to the Bed, where they tied him down Neck and Heel to the Cordage, for his Mother had prudently withdrawn the Bed-Clothes and Bed, that they might not be torn or abused in the Hurry.

This Operation being over, while the Doctor lay cursing and raving, and foaming at the Mouth, the Physician entered into serious Discourse with his Mother about the Cause of his Illness ; and finding by her Account, that he had scarce eaten any Meat for a great many Days, he remembered an *Aphorism* of *Hippocrates*, which says, That the Cause of a Disease always precedes a Disease. He reasoned from thence, that whatever precedes a Disease, must be the Cause of it ; and therefore being of Opinion, that his high Fever was owing to fasting, he ordered his Mother to bring him some solid Meat, whereupon she brought a Stake of Salt-Beef and some Mutton-Broth, with great Plenty of Mustard, which the Physician prescribed to compose his Spirits.

But when this was offered him, the Doctor being very angry, and also considering that such gross Feeding would entirely destroy the Effects of his former Regimen, could by no Means be prevailed on to take it ; and when they endeavoured to force him to eat something, he shut his Mouth so strongly, that all their Strength and Art could not open it, in so much that they were obliged to  
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feed him with Injections for 11 Days, till he was reduced very low.

Now, it happened once, when his Mother was administering a Clyster to him, she observed two Plaisters on his Hips, which she taking off with great Tenderness and Care, was surpris'd to find something like Eyes below them, which she could not believe were Eyes, but took them for some ugly Sores, and was uneasy till she consulted the Physician. The Physician, immediately upon seeing them, was of Opinion they really were Eyes, and the true Cause of his present Distemper; for, if the breeding of Teeth create so much Trouble, the breeding of Eyes, and in so fleshy a Part too, must give a much greater Shock to the Constitution; and, upon this Occasion, he made a very learned Discourse to some of his Lads who were present, shewing from what distant Places, and different Juices of the Body, the component Parts of an Eye must be brought, and how it must affect the whole Animal Oeconomy. The Eyes indeed dropt out in a short Time, but that was imputed to the present languishing Condition of the Patient, who was not then able to nourish them.

The Doctor still continued to grow weaker and weaker, and his Physician, considering the Ingredients he put into his Clyster, was quite positive, that if nothing ailed him but a bodily Distemper, he must necessarily have been well long ere that Time; and therefore plainly told his Mother, That her Son's Illness must be owing to some obstinate ill Humour in his Mind, which it was not his Profession to cure,

therefore he could do him no farther Service. His Mother hearing this, and being a wise Woman, and well acquainted with her Son's Disposition, fell upon the following ingenious Contrivance; gathering together all the Money she could, she sat down at his Bed-side and told it over several Times, so as that he might hear the Sound of it, lamenting bitterly that her Son should die, when she designed to give him so much Money. Now, tho' the Doctor could not speak, this was observed to have a good Effect on him; for he began then to take Meat and Drink very pleasantly, and that very Night was heard to mutter some Curses, for which his Mother, lifting up her Hands very devoutly, thanked Heaven, and then covered him up warm with the Bed-clothes. Next Morning, when his Mother was giving him a Drink, he asked, What was become of her red Cloke? Now, this red Cloke he had aforetime asked to make a Pair of Breeches of, and this was the Reason he remembered it now. In the Evening, he fell into a most outrageous Fit of cursing, which he continued with so much Violence, for three Quarters of an Hour, that Nobody askt what the Reason of it was. At last, his Mother taking an Opportunity, when he was out of Breath, to enquire; he told her, he had dreamt she had a great deal of Money. The good Woman, overjoyed to see him so well disposed, told him, she had the Money still, and likewise where it lay. Upon this he was pacified, and rising in the Middle of the Night, he took the Money and hid it under the Bed-clothes. Next Morning he was observed to be in very good Humour, calling  
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for *Cicely Hatch*, and speaking Bawdry to her, which the Physician, who was now returned, said was a good Symptom, and, feeling his Pulse, gave his Mother good Hopes of his Recovery.

And indeed, after this, he always continued to do better. Till one Day, ruminating on his former Projects, and reflecting that the subtle visionary Spirits, as he called them, with which he had formerly stored his Brain, might be disturbed or dissipated thro' his Body, by the bad Regimen he had been under for some Time, in order to repair them, he rose up when there was Nobody in the Room, and making three great Leaps, and coming down with all his Strength upon his Soles, as judging that the best Way to make his Spirits mount up: Then lashing himself with both his Arms for a considerable Time, to rouse the Spirits, stroaking his Back, Belly and Breast very hard, and giving himself several Tweaks by the Nose, by Way of *Stimulus*, took a Saddle-Girth, which happened to be lying in the Room, and rolling it very tight about his Neck, to prevent his Spirits from falling down again, was going to his Bed to see how they would work, without intending the least Harm to any living Soul.

But one of the Servants, who had been alarmed by the Noise of the Doctor's first Leaps, and observed his Behaviour thro' the Hole of the Lock, had run and alarmed the People of the House, who, gathering a Posse of the Neighbours, burst into the Room, and seizing the Doctor, hurled him into the Bed, without allowing him to speak one single Word. Nay, some unlucky Hand had  
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caught hold of the Saddle-Girth, and held it fast for a long Time. And now the Doctor must have been infallibly killed, and the World deprived of all the great Works he has done, if he had not owed his Life to what I may call an almost miraculous Preservation; for his Breath, being pent up in his Lungs, at length gathered so much Strength as to force its Passage downwards, and he breathed at the other End for a full Hour and three Quarters. I know some of the Physicians of this Place, who bear no good Will to the Doctor's Fame, and would willingly rob him of the Honour of this Miracle, will deny that this is possible, and pretend to prove it from the Anatomy of the Parts, accusing us his Friends of too great Credulity in his Behalf: But I am little concerned about what these People say; it is a Fact I relate, and a Fact the Doctor is able to prove still by Experiment. He will allow any Body to hang him up by the Neck, and engages to hang there for an Hour and an Half, for he would not willingly exceed the Time he has made Trial of, providing his Breeches be loose all the Time, and he be allowed free Air. Besides, the Doctor has already fully explained and demonstrated this whole Matter, in his last most elegant and elaborate Lecture to the Ladies of this Place.

As soon as the Doctor perceived he had acquired this new Faculty, as he is very ingenious in all his Inventions, he thought of revenging himself upon these troublesome People, by making them believe he was dead; shutting his Eyes, therefore, and stretching himself out on the Bed, he lay quite motionless,



motionless, and in appearance dead, for some Time : At first the Bystanders were in a terrible Consternation, when they thought the Man had died among their Hands ; they used all Means to recover him, chafed his Temples, poured Brandy into his Mouth, thro' his Teeth, Glass after Glass, Bottle after Bottle, pinched him, bled him, blew up his Nose, called his Name aloud at both his Ears ; but when they found all at last to no Purpose, they was sat down, and considering that he must have died some Time ; that it is the Way we must all go ; that there is one Way of coming into the World, but a thousand of going out ; that he was now free of an ill World ; together with many other pious Reflections of the same Kind, they were comforted, and composed their Faces to a becoming Gravity ; only the Physician, who had directed in all this Affair, was a little solicitous how to prevent all Suspicions of being the Instrument of the Doctor's Death, either by his Hands or his Medicines. After a very little Deliberation, he thought it was best to take the Start of the malicious World, in spreading Reports, and therefore went directly to the Mayor of the Place, told him there was a Man had laid violent Hands on himself, and desired his Body to dissect for the Use of the Physicians and Surgeons. The Mayor could not refuse so reasonable a Demand, especially as it had been established by Custom, Time out of Mind, in that Place ; so the Physician gave half a Guinea and a Bowl of Rum Punch, and received a Warrant to take the Body.

But when a great Multitude were gathered together, who had all paid the Physician Sixpence  
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the Piece for Admission to see the Dissection, they lifted up the Doctor, stript off his Shirt, and stretched him upon a large Table, quite naked ; all which he bore with heroick Patience, 'till hearing them speak somewhat about the proper Way of cutting the Muscles of the *Abdomen*, he felt a great Curiosity to peep up ; when, seeing such a Number of People standing round him, with Dissecting-Knives in their Hands, he was terribly surprized, and started up with a great Noise, which frightened the People so much, that they all ran out with the greatest Precipitation, insomuch that the Physician's Wig was lost, and his right Ear sore bruised, and almost torn away in the Press ; but recovering themselves from the Fright, in a short Time they returned, and endeavoured, by many obliging Civilities, and strong Arguments, to persuade the Doctor to submit peaceably, without any farther Bustle or Noise ; but when they found the Doctor quite obstinate, and unmoved by all their Intreaties and Arguments, then the Physician, in a great Passion, threatned him with a Prosecution at Law for Damages ; and indeed the Doctor, by this Means, was engaged in a very long and troublesome Law-Suit.

Now, there were a great many Things that made against the Doctor in this Law-Suit ; the Half-Guinea given to the Mayor, the Sixpences collected by the Physician, the Expectations of so many who had never seen a Dissection, and the great Credit of the Physician, who was supposed to know a dead Man better than an Oculist : Besides, the Doctor, tho', beyond all Peradventure,



an extremely fine Spokesman, had really very little to say in his own Vindication; for it was clearly proved, by several Witnesses, that he had twisted a Girth about his own Neck, strong enough to strangle ten Men; that he had lain dead for two Hours; that they had held a Looking-Glass to his Mouth for six Minutes, and it was not stained with his Breath, which was, by most People, thought all the Proof the Law requires in those Cases: Besides, it was urged against him, that he not being forisfamiliated, could not answer for himself, but behoved to leave all to his Father and Mother; and they, when called, being conscientious People, and not liking to disoblige so many Gentlemen, could not deny but in their Conscience they believed their Son was dead. Add to this, that the Doctor was apprehensive of a farther Prosecution, and severe Punishment, for murdering himself; for the Judge, who was very learned in the *English Law*, tho' an *Irishman*, was heard to say, that, by an old Act of Parliament, a Man who murdered himself was liable to a severe Fine, besides Imprisonment for Life: So that, upon the Whole, the Doctor could think of no other Way of extricating himself out of all these Difficulties, but by running away and leaving the Country; and this was the true Cause of his going abroad, tho' some have maliciously ascribed it to a Quackish Disposition, and others to his having married a Cinder-Wench.

But how, after this, he made his Escape, by travelling thro' the Country in the Disguise of a Sow-Gelder, and what surprising Operations he performed under that Character; how he was

graduated in a Malt-Barn, and what calamitous Disasters befel him on that Occasion; how he procured his Passage into *France*, *gratis*, by passing for the Duke of *Grafton's* Fool, and eating Askes baked with Cow-Dung and Lamp-Black; what kind Reception he met with in all the Courts abroad, and the famous Dispute he had with the King of *France's* Oyster-Wench, in Presence of the King and Royal Family, concerning the Organs of Vision of a Mussel, of which he gives so full an Account in his Treatise on the Eye, I forbear to relate, as these Actions were so conspicuous, that they cannot fail to engage the Pen of some superior Genius. My Design was only to give some lame Account of the Progress of the Doctor's Studies, and that for two Reasons, *First*, Because I have often lamented, that while what is done in Parliaments and Courts, and the Actions of War, are celebrated by so many Orators, Poets, Historians, and Writers of News-Papers, the great Transactions of learned Men in their Closets, from which the World reaps so much Benefit, should be quite neglected. And, *Secondly*, That the World may see how much the Doctor has suffered for their Sakes, and how far they may trust his Abilities and Learning, and that it is not without Reason he demands an implicit Faith in his Skill, and will not allow his Patients to ask the Advice of others, or consult their own Senses and Reason.

I shall now proceed to give some Account of what the Doctor undertakes to perform, but must first admonish my courteous Readers to give no heed to any Calumnies against him; for I can assure them, there are few who are left by the Doctor,  
that



that are not worse than while among his Hands; and there can be no greater Proof of the Advantage of continuing under his Care.

All weak and tender Eyes, that cannot bear the Light, the Doctor undertakes to manage so, that, in a few Days, the greater Light shall not affect them.

All Eyes of old People, not under a Hundred and fifty Years old (at which Time the Sight is generally weak) the Doctor undertakes, by a very simple Operation, to make see as well as they did at fifteen.

All who delight in Optical Observations, and have frequent Occasions to shut one Eye, may repair to the Doctor, who, at a very inconsiderable Expence, will save them the Trouble of shutting that Eye for Life.

The Doctor holds, with some late Philosophers, that Darkeness is not owing to the Want of Light, but to certain tenebriferous Rays emitted by some Stars, and has a most expeditious and easy Method of forming the Eyes in such Manner, that they shall constantly perceive these Rays.

The Doctor, understanding the Sympathy of the Eyes better than any Man alive, and considering what a Loss it is to see with one Eye, while the other is blind, professes to make both Eyes alike.

*N. B. Most of these Operations the Doctor is allowed, even by his greatest Enemies to perform with singular Dexterity and Skill.*

The Doctor prepares and sells, at very reasonable Rates, a most exquisitely subtile Spirit, distilled from the finest Diamonds, for the Use of Ladies of Fashion, and another distilled from

Rock-Crystal, for those of a lower Rank, which, being injected into the Eye, after the Aqueous Humor is carefully tapt off, gives it such a killing Lustre, as is able to strike the strongest Man dead at one Glance.

N. B. *This is the Receipt the Doctor procured from the Ladies in his last Lectures.*

He also distills a Spirit from Lightning, for the Use of commanding Officers, and another from the Flame of Gun-Powder, for the common Soldiers, which gives the Eye such a terrible Look, that it was of eminent Service against the *French* in the late War.

N. B. *Beware of Counterfeits, for such are abroad.*

The Doctor makes an Eye of any Character that is desired. If a Gentleman would appear a Gallant, he shortens the *Musculi Amatores*, so that he shall always be ogling. If a Lady would pass for devout, he makes her Eyes to be continually turned up. If a young Officer would look fierce, he makes his Eyes stand out, and gives them a sprightly red Tincture. A Politician he makes look every Way at once. A Man lately come into Place, he makes carry his Eyes high, without straining his Muscles; and a Town-Lady, that fancies a modest Look, he gives a pretty Suffusion, with a most delicate Water to her Eyes, without spoiling their Sprightliness.

N. B. *The Doctor hits the true Character, and makes the Eyes sit with a more genteel and graceful Air than any other who professes this Art.*

For the Use of all Wives who have hard-hearted Husbands, the Doctor teaches the Art of brewing Tears, (and that without any Sharpness or Acrimony)



mony) that will melt the hardest Marble or Flint, as he proves by repeated Experiments every Day at his Lectures.

For young Ladies of Quality, and others, the Doctor teaches the Language of the Eye, upon the Plan delivered in his late Lectures to the Ladies, without burdening the weakest Memory, as he takes Care to give nothing that needs to be remembered.

The Doctor excels all in beautifying the Eye; for having discovered, that the Lustre of the Eye is owing to the Rays of Light that are reflected back from its Surface, and not to them that enter the Eye, he takes care that no Light shall enter, but all be reflected.

The Doctor makes a Spirit, into which if Eyes are put, they may be preserved a long Time, so that People may keep their Eyes, without wearing them, as long as they please.

*N. B. This Spirit does not harden, as other highly rectified Spirits do.*

The Doctor takes out any Gentleman or Lady's Eyes, and having turned them outside inmost, towards the Brain, the said Gentleman or Lady shall afterwards see the Ideas passing in their own Minds, as clearly as they would do any Object in the brightest Sunshine at Noon-Day.

*N. B. All to whom the Doctor has done this, are ready to attest it when required.*

The Doctor has made the following Improvements on the Use of the Eye.

By the Help of a few Strings of Cats-Gut drawn through the Eye, he can enable any Man that understands

derstands Opticks, to see Objects in all the different Manners in which they are viewed through Optical Glaffes.

Having been informed, that all the original Colours are in the same harmonick Proportions as the Tones of Musick, he has most ingeniously contrived a Machine, which, being placed betwixt the Drum of the Ear and the Optick Nerves, in the Inside of the Head, so as not to deform the Countenance in the least, whenever the one End is struck by any Sound; the other End, acting upon the Optick Nerve, excites the correspondent Colour; so that one is entertained, at the same time, with the Musick of Colours and Sounds in Concert. He intends to form the same Connection betwixt the Ear and other Senses, but has not as yet brought that Design to Perfection.

*N. B. All who have tried this Machine, agree in affirming it gives the highest Delight.*

Observing the great Loss many are at, in reading what they do not understand, the Doctor has contrived a Method, by taking the Eyes out of the Head, and holding them at a proper Distance, to make the Sense converge into a *Focus* before it enters the Brain.

*N. B. He sells all these Machines at very reasonable Rates, with full Directions how to use them.*

To give a Specimen of his Abilities, the Doctor shews the following Experiments, at *Exeter-Change*, on *Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday* Nights.

He takes a Mite and thrusting a Needle into its Eye, cures it of a Cataract, by dissecting the Crystalline Humor out of its *Capsula*, tho' the Mite,



and the Needle with which he does it, are so small as not to be visible to the sharpest Eye.

N. B. *Whereas it has been maliciously reported, that the Doctor does this by private Compact with the said Mite, this is to give Notice, that the Doctor will do it to any Mite the Company pleases to offer.*

He gives the following unanswerable Demonstration, that the Choroid Coats of the Eye, contrary to the Opinion of most celebrated Anatomists, is the immediate Organ of Vision. He takes out any Gentleman's Eye who doubts of it, and dissecting off the Choroid Coat very neatly, puts in the Eye again, and the said Gentleman shall not see with that Eye, which convinces him to his full Satisfaction.

The Doctor takes out all the Eyes of the Company, gives them to his Secretary, who, jumbling them together in his Hat, then offers them again to the Doctor, and he very readily pairs them, tells of what Sex, Age, Complexion, Character and Business the Owners of them are, and, in Conclusion, gives every one their own Eyes again, as before.

The Doctor takes one of his Attendants, bores a Hole in his Skull, introduces an extremely well polished Silver Tube, with the finest *Speculums* of Glass in the Ends of it, and in this Manner shews the Ideas, as they pass in the said Attendant's Mind, painted on a Piece of white Paper on the opposite Wall.

N. B. *It must be one who has not many Ideas of Reflection, as they do not appear well in Colours.*

Any Gentleman that desires to be acquainted with the Structure of his own Eyes, the Doctor

takes them both out, lays them in the Gentleman's Hands, allows him to look at them an Hour and five Minutes, then brushes and puts them in again, and the said Gentleman shall see as well as the first Minute they were taken out.

The Doctor has a very fine Oil, which being injected into the Eyes, and set on Fire while the Room is darkened, and the Smoke conveyed, by the lachrymal Duct, thro' the Nose, makes the prettiest Appearance that can be imagined.

N. B. *Those who would appear Devils, he can furnish with a most clear shining black Flame.*

I might say a great deal to persuade People to put themselves into the Doctor's Hands; but as, in his next Lecture, he is to give a Discourse on these Words, *If your right Eye offend you, pluck it out*, it may justly be expected that his Eloquence will be far more prevalent than any Thing I can say.

*Advertisement.* People that live at a Distance may send their Eyes in a Letter directed to the Doctor, who will cure them as well as if they were present themselves.

*Item,* The Doctor sells all Kinds of Eye-Brushes, Eye-Combs, Eye-Tethers, Eye-Picks, Eye-Rin-sers, Eye-Tappers, Eye-Convulsers, Eye-Washes, Eye-Cases, Eye-Waters, Eye-Humors, Eye-Shades, Eye-Bandages, Eye-Brows, Eye-Lids, Eye-Lashes, Eye-Screws, Eye-Pinchers, Eye-Drawers, all made in the newest Fashions. As likewise, all Sorts of Uvea's, Pupils, CrySTALLINES, Choroid Coats and Tear-Glands, for Old, Young, and Middle-aged, besides all other Instruments, Tools and Utensils necessary for recovering, preserving or beautifying the Eyes.



